

OCTOBER 2020



Cursillo *forward*

Cursillo in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego

Our Mission is to Christianize Environments and Develop Lay Leadership
Please visit our Cursillo website for more information at www.sdcursillo.org



A MESSAGE FROM THE DIOCESAN CURSILLO SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

The nineteenth century evangelical hymn, “My Hope is Built on Nothing Less” by Edward Mote and William Bradbury is based on the “hearers and doers” parable of Jesus in Matthew 7:24-27. The parable makes it clear that Jesus is the solid rock, the foundation upon which to build our lives. The person who really believes in the words of Jesus also does the words of Jesus. A person like this is trusting in Jesus’ righteousness and trying to live out Jesus’ righteousness in their own life. The person who builds their house on sand is not doing the words of Jesus and instead trusting in their own self-righteousness. The sand is not a solid foundation and when the winds blow and beat against the house the house fell and “great was its fall.” Now, let’s look at the hymn and see the profound theology and spirituality that it teaches.

My hope is built on nothing less

Than Jesus' blood and righteousness

I dare not trust the sweetest frame

But wholly lean on Jesus' name

Notice in this first stanza that our hope is built upon Jesus' death on the cross as a sacrifice for our sins and His righteousness. It is through Christ's righteousness that we enter into a relationship with God. It is through Christ's righteousness that we have a right relationship with God and with other people. We do not trust the sweetest frame—a beautiful vision or picture of things of the world. The world has many beautiful things in it that we can appreciate, but we do not put our trust in it. Paul says in Philippians 3, that he counts everything as rubbish and as loss compared to the righteousness of Christ.

On Christ the solid Rock I stand

All other ground is sinking sand

All other ground is sinking sand

The refrain brings out the central message of Jesus's parable found in Matthew. We need to learn, re-learn, and then re-learn again and again the truth of this stanza. It's so easy for us to start thinking that there is another foundation for our lives other than Jesus Christ.

When darkness veils His lovely face

I rest on His unchanging grace

In ev'ry high and stormy gale

My anchor holds within the veil

This stanza reminds me of the sixteenth century Spanish mystic St. John of the Cross when he talks about the dark night of the soul. The dark night of the soul is when we experience the absence of God. The presence of God is withdrawn from us, or so it seems. Sometimes we can go through a dark time where we struggle to find God's presence. It seems that God has abandoned us. But after the dark night is over with, we rediscover in a deeper way that God was really present with us all along. He was working, but we could not see it. In the hymn, it speaks of unchanging grace. God's grace is always present and working.

His oath His covenant His blood

Support me in the whelming flood

When all around my soul gives way

He then is all my hope and stay

Jesus's promises to us are a contract that you can count on Him keeping. Even in the midst of an overwhelming flood, when everything else is washed away, Jesus will still keep His promise and therefore is worthy of your hope and trust.

When He shall come with trumpet sound

O may I then in Him be found

Dressed in His righteousness alone

Faultless to stand before the throne

In apocalyptic literature in the Bible, the great end of days, as in the [Book of First Thessalonians 4:16](#) and as in the Book of Revelation, is announced with a trumpet. The trumpet symbolizes the announcement of a king that has great authority. When the trumpet sounds, it's calling us to pay attention to Jesus who is coming as the king over all of creation. He's coming to bring His salvation to completion and perfection. But what about you? And me? Are we going to be part of Jesus's saving work? If we put our hope in Jesus, then we will be found on the last day "dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne." See Revelation 19:8 and all of Revelation 21.

Your friend in Christ,



Father George

FOURTH DAY ACTIVITIES

September Ultreya en Espanol.

The Cursillo Ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego produced a virtual ultreya presented entirely in Spanish! It premiered on September 14, 2020 and is accessible on the Cursillo website, sdcursillo.org. and of this writing has been viewed 68 times!

The talks were given by long-time bi-lingual Cursillistas, Elizabeth Gastelum, who gave the Witness Talk, Miguel Cosio, who gave the Echo Talk, and Rev. Lilia Mendoza, who gave the Scriptural Response. The theme of the Ultreya was how Cursillo helped the witnesses grow in faith, closeness to God, and in sharing the love of Jesus with others. Each witness also shared

how Cursillo encouraged them in participating and leading in the activities and ministries of the Church.

Music for the Ultreya was provided by the singing team of Alex Tuttle and Ruben Rodriguez, who sang together though separated by time and space. Rachel Ambasing closed the Ultreya with her rendition of the Lord’s Prayer in Spanish.

The next ultreya event will be the Grand Ultreya scheduled for Saturday, November 14, 2020. At present the Grand Ultreya is planned to be a live in-person event to be held outside at St. Alban’s Episcopal Church in El Cajon. Look for the Flyer and further details on the Cursillo website.



Ruben Rodriguez

Cursillo events calender(Subject to postponement)

020	More Information Click Link	Directions Click Link	Click Link to e-mail POC	Return to top
DATE	Description	Location	POC	Time/Day
Oct-01-20	<u>Secretariat</u>	<u>St. Dunstan's</u>	<u>Isabel Lynne</u>	6:00 PM Brn Bag 6:30 PM Meeting
Postponed to Mar-26-21	Cursillo #146 (Coed) <i>Mananitas 2:15 PM (Flowers only) Open Clausura 2:45 PM Sunday</i>	<u>Pine Valley Bible Conference Center</u>	<u>Ginny Rodriguez</u>	7:00 PM Thursday through 5:00 PM Sunday
November 2020	More Information Click Link	Directions Click Link	Click Link to e-mail POC	Return to top
DATE	Description	Location	POC	Time/Day
Nov-14-20	<u>Secretariat</u>	<u>St. Alban's</u>	<u>Isabel Lynne</u>	TBD
Nov - 14 - 20	<u>Grand Ultreya</u>	<u>St. Alban's</u>	<u>Ruben Rodriguez</u>	TBD
Nov-06-20 to Nov-07-20	<u>47th San Diego Episcopal Virtual Diocesan Convention</u>	<u>St. Paul's, Yuma</u>	<u>Keren Mondaca</u>	Friday & Saturday
Nov-29-20	Forward Deadline		<u>News Letter Editor</u>	COB

2020 SECRETARIAT LAY MEMBERS

Name	Email	Function	Term Exp.
Isabel Lynne	ilynne1700@yahoo.com	President	2020
Ruben Rodriguez	rodriguez_ruben@msn.com	Rector Support Team, Outreach, Ultreyas	2021
Susan Miller	miller.sv@sbcglobal.net	Pre-Cursillo Chair, Assoc. Webmaster President Elect	2021
Humberto Garcia	ambrsunny2@aol.com	4 th Day Chair	2020
Mike Jewett	hdbg90@hotmail.com	3 Day Weekend, Chair	2021
Craig Noble	craignoble@cox.net	Palanca, ECM Liaison	2022
Judy Brown	Jbrown3944@aol.com	Treasurer	2021
Sunny Landry	ricanmama13@yahoo.com	Secretary	2022
James Ambasing	cvista.ja@cox.net	4 th Day, Vice Chair	2022

2020 SECRETARIAT CLERGY MEMBERS

Name	Email	Function	Term Exp.
Rev. George Calvert	gcalvert@berkeley.edu	Diocesan Spiritual Advisor	Bishop Apnt'd
Rev. Carlos Garcia	carlangas1986@cs.com	Assistant Spiritual Advisor	Bishop Apnt'd
Rev. Paul Gambling	gfrpaul@gmail.com	Assistant Spiritual Advisor	2022
OPEN-LOOKING FOR	VOLUNTEERS? CALL REV. GEORGE		
Rev. Peter Sickles	psickles@msn.com	Assistant Spiritual Advisor	2021

SPECIAL CURSILLO SERVANTS

Name	Email	Function
Larry Salvadori	lasalvadori@yahoo.com	Servant Community Chair/ Forward Editor
Rachel Ambasing	rachel.ambasing@gmail.com	Music, Sponsorship
Debbie Kistler	dk.outoflove@cox.net	Historian, Social Media
Kit Chevalier	kmsopsinger@yahoo.com	Parish Reps, Publicity
Ed Embick	sueanded@san.rr.com	Communications Chair / Webmaster
Shell Pierce	roaminchristian@mindspring.com	Prayer Chain

CURSILLO CORNER – LOVE DONATIONS – THE GREEN ROLLO

The Cursillo community accepts donations year-round, and especially now with ongoing cancellations, uncertainty, and upheavals. These donations allow us to set up “scholarships” to help defray the cost of sponsoring new Cursillistas and workers, paying our bills, supporting our ministries, and donating to the the Episcopal Cursillo Ministry. If you’d like to make a small, medium, or large gift to Cursillo, please sent it now to:

Judy Brown – Treasurer
51 Viejas Grade Road
Alpine, Ca. 91901-1605
Checks made out to: Cursillos in Christianity



Note, The new Spanish Cursillo Brochures will be available for distribution by October 16, 2020.

Note, Below is the draft copy of the Cursillo Convention Hospitality website cover sheet. Each Delegate to Convention will be able to click on a link to view this page. Once on the website, there will be 8 links to go to as listed below for information, inspiration, fun, and joy. Overleaf, you will find a link page under “ABOUT CURSILLO” entitled “ATTENTION ALL SEEKERS”.

THE 47TH ANNUAL SAN DIEGO VIRTUAL CONVENTION

WELCOME TO CURSILLO HOSPITALITY



Dear Child of God,

Your attendance at this Convention is a blessing, inspired by a calling from God to contribute to its success. Participation will be “alone with friends” instead of “among friends.” This required change will be an opportunity to create new ways to love and serve each other in fellowship and purpose. As your Hospitality Servants, we look forward to loving and serving you in the best possible way during the Convention.



The San Diego Episcopal Cursillo Secretariat

The items below are meant for your encouragement and inspiration. When you are ready for a temporary diversion, maybe to get a drink or a snack from the fridge, we hope you will also avail yourself of the "refreshments" we've prepared for you .

PRAYERS...for wisdom and common purpose
MEDITATIONS...to prepare yourself for Convention.
ASK FOR PRAYER...for others or yourself.
HUMOR ... we could all use a bit of that these days.
GALLERY...of moments from a recent Cursillo Week.
ABOUT CURSILLO...from the Presiding Bishop and others.
AN INVITATION...to be served, and then to serve.
A GIFT...delivered right to your mailbox.

ATTENTION ALL SEEKERS

Are you in a rut? Have you run out of places to go and books to read to seek a better understanding of your faith journey, and your relationship to God and Jesus Christ? Are you an active, dedicated, and committed Christian? Are you seeking to renew and enrich your faith? Are you yearning to share your faith with others? Are you looking for a small group ministry to share that faith? Are you ready to move forward in faith and love?

Well, we have a place for you to go to start getting answers to what you seek. It's a place that's open 24/7. It's location is far away from where you live, but you don't have to leave home to go there. Yes, you guessed it. It's the San Diego Cursillo Ministry Website:

sdcursillo.org

You don't need a key to go through a gate to get in. Our website door, and our ministry, is wide open to all seekers, no exceptions!

Once in, you will find our literature, our calendar, our publications, our music, our events, contacts, Parish Reps, our applications, invitations, and finally, our 2020 Cursillo Pastoral Plan with Bishop Susan and the Diocese. WOW! That will keep you busy! And where is all of this leading? Perhaps to strongly consider attending a Cursillo Weekend. There, Seekers will find ways to start, or to continue, servant leadership to God, your Diocese, your Parish, and your neighbors. This is Seekers finding a spiritual home and family.

The San Diego Episcopal Cursillo Secretariat